Sri Mahalasa Narayani Temple, Basrur, Udupi Dist; Karnataka

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Info is given under following headings: Location, address, phone number...etc., how to get there, greatness of this temple, architecture, Main deity here and subdeities, daily poojas and rituals and their charges, special poojas, sevas and their charges, festivals, facilities for devotees such as accommodation etc,, donation info, bank acct numbers etc.., nearby Temples, nearby places of tourist interest, nearby budget hotels, .any other info...etc

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Sri Mahalasa Narayani Temple, Basrur (also known as Shri Mahalasa Narayani Temple or Mahalasa Temple, Basrur) is a significant Hindu temple in coastal Karnataka, primarily dedicated to Goddess Mahalasa Narayani (a protective form often linked to Mohini, the female avatar of Vishnu, or Shakti/Parvati aspects).

It is a key Kuladevata (family deity) shrine for the Goud Saraswat Brahmin (GSB) community, who revere her as "Malshi" or Mother Goddess for protection, prosperity, and family welfare.

Location

Mandikeri, Basrur village, Kundapura Taluk, Udupi district, Karnataka, India.

It lies on the banks of the Varahi River (Panchagangavali), about 8 km from Kundapura town (via Kundapura-Shimoga bypass, near Basrur MuruKai). The historic port town setting offers a serene, riverside ambiance amid lush greenery.

PIN: 576211.

Contact: +91 8254 237700 | **Email**: malshibasrur@gmail.com (from tem juple sources).

Official Website: https://mahalasabasrur.org/

History and Legend

The temple is over 500 years old (some accounts say 400+ years), with roots in the migration of GSB families from Goa during Portuguese persecution (16th–17th centuries).

The original Moolasthana (primary seat) is at Shri Mahalasa Temple in Mardol, Goa (over 450 years old). Ancestors brought the worship to Basrur, a thriving ancient port (mentioned by Ibn Battuta as Abu-Sarur in the 14th century), under Vijayanagara and Keladi Nayak influence.

Goddess Mahalasa Narayani is worshipped for her protective and benevolent nature, often depicted as a fierce yet compassionate mother.

The temple was recently renovated with a grand 49-ft tower and intricate carvings depicting Puranic stories.

Architecture

Traditional coastal Karnataka style with modern renovations:

49-ft high main tower (3000 sq.ft. area) featuring detailed carvings of Puranas and deities.

Exquisite work on doors, windows, pillars, and overall structure.

Serene layout suitable for community gatherings and rituals.

Other Deities

Primarily focused on Goddess Mahalasa Narayani (four-handed form holding trishula, sword, severed head, and drinking bowl; standing on a demon).

Sub-shrines may include standard GSB temple deities like Ganapathi or Naga, though specific details are limited in public sources.

Temple Timings

Morning to Afternoon: Open until 1:30 PM

Closed: 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM (for Madhyahna Pooja/rest)

Evening: 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Overnight Closed: 8:00 PM to 7:00 AM

Timings may vary on festivals/special days;

Bhajana Seva: 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM (daily).

Daily Rituals and Sevas (with Charges where available)

Daily rituals follow traditional patterns with community focus:

Morning poojas, Madhyahna Pooja (midday), and evening aarti.

Bhajana Seva (chanting/devotional singing): 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM.

After Madhyahna Pooja on Sundays: Food (annaprasadam) served to Kulavis and community members.

On Ekadashi Sundays: Palahara (light refreshments) offered.

Specific sevas and charges are not extensively listed online for this Basrur temple (unlike larger ones).

From related Mahalasa temples (e.g., Konchady/Mardol references), typical offerings include:

- Brahmana Santharpane Seva (for 1 month): Around ₹5,000
- One Day Pooja with Brahmana Santharpane: Varies (nominal to moderate)

Other common sevas: Kumkumarchana, Chudi Pooja (group offerings), etc. (often community-based, charges nominal or donation-based).

Exact current charges: Check directly via temple contact (08254-237700) or website, as they may be updated or donation-oriented.

Special Sevas and Charges

Special/community sevas include:

Samuhika Chudi Pooja & Kumkumarchana (group rituals, often during festivals like Navratri or Vardhanti).

Vasanthotsavam or similar seasonal offerings (not detailed specifically for Basrur).

Charges are typically modest/donation-based for GSB-focused temples; many are free for Kulavis or community events.

No comprehensive public list of special sevas/charges found online — contact temple trust for latest.

Festivals

Navratri Festival: Major celebration with special poojas, invitations, and community events (highlighted on temple site).

Vardhanti (annual temple anniversary/renovation commemoration): Features group poojas like Samuhika Chudi Pooja.

Other auspicious days: Ekadashi (especially Sundays), Fridays (Devi-focused), and community-specific GSB festivals.

Navratri and Vardhanti see high participation with bhajans, annaprasadam, and rituals.

Donation Info

Donations support temple maintenance, development, and rituals.

Cheque/DD in favour of: Shree Mahalasa Narayani Temple, Mandikeri, Basrur (or similar; confirm via contact).

Postal Address: Shree Mahalasa Narayani Temple, Mandikeri, Post: Basrur, Dist. Udupi - 576221.

No online donation portal detailed on the Basrur site (unlike some Goa Mahalasa branches);

contact temples for QR codes, bank details, or direct contributions.

All donations used exclusively for temple upkeep and activities.

Any Other Details

This temple is deeply tied to GSB community identity — many families perform Kuladevata rituals here for life events (e.g., marriages, housewarmings).

Community practices emphasize equality, annaprasadam sharing, and bhajans.

Peaceful location ideal for quiet darshan; attracts GSB devotees from Karnataka, Goa, and beyond.

Nearby: Historic Basrur ruins, Varahi River views, and proximity to other Kundapura temples (e.g., Mahalingeshwara).

This temple stands as a symbol of resilient faith and cultural heritage for the GSB samaj — a serene spot for devotion and family traditions.

Nearby Temples

Basrur and surrounding Kundapura Taluk are rich in ancient temples, many with historic and architectural significance:

- Shri Mahalingeshwara Temple (Basrur) — Very close (often adjacent or within short walk); a prominent Shiva temple in the area.
- Shri Tuluveshwara Temple (Basrur) — About 9 km from Kundapura (in Basrur itself); an ancient ~1000-year-old open-air Shiva temple sheltered by a banyan tree, with no stone walls — unique and serene.
- Shri Adhintheshwara / Aadinatheshwara Temple (Basrur) — Another historic Shiva shrine in the locality.
- Shri Lakshmi Narayana Temple, Shri Venkataramana Temple, Hanuman Temple, Shri Ramachandra Temple, and others in Basrur village.
- Shri Kumbashi Eshwara Temple (Kumbashi/Anegudde area, nearby) — Famous for its Shiva linga.
- Shri Siddi Vinayaka Temple and Shri Rajarajeshwari Temple (in Kundapura town, ~8 km away).

These form part of Kundapura's temple cluster, reflecting Tulu Nadu's rich Shaiva and Vaishnava heritage.

Nearby Places of Tourist Interest

- Basrur/Kundapura offers a mix of history, nature, and beaches (coastal Karnataka charm):
- Varahi River / Panchagangavali River Banks — Right beside the temple; scenic walks, boating, or peaceful views (great for photography/sunsets).
- Historic Basrur Ruins/Port Area — Explore ancient trade port remnants (mentioned by Ibn Battuta); old structures and cultural heritage sites.
- Maravanthe Beach (~20–25 km from Kundapura) — Famous for the unique highway-beach-river view (NH 66 runs parallel to the sea and Souparnika River).
- Kodi Beach / Turtle Beach (near Kundapura) — Pristine white sands and turtle nesting spots.

Kollur Mookambika Temple (~40–50 km) — Major Shakti Peetha with scenic Western Ghats drive.

Anegudde Mahaganapathi Temple (~10–15 km) — Popular Ganapathi shrine on Udupi-Kundapura highway.

Thekkatte Bird Sanctuary (on Udupi-Kundapura route) — Migratory/resident birds (ibis, cormorants, kingfishers); best in evenings.
Koteshwar (~20 km) — Historic town with beaches and temples.
Best time for sightseeing: October–March (pleasant weather, less humidity).

Nearby Budget Hotels

Basrur itself has limited options (mostly basic lodges/homestays for pilgrims), so most stay in Kundapura town (8 km away) or nearby areas:

- Sri Durga International (Kundapura) — Budget-friendly, highly rated for value, cleanliness, and location (near Kundapura Station).
- Hotel Mahalakshmi Residency / Hotel Mookambika Palace (Kundapura) — Affordable rooms (₹1000–2500/night), good reviews for service and proximity.
- Capital O 26609 Pratham Inn (Kundapura area) — Budget chain option with AC/non-AC rooms.
- UVA Meridian Bay Resort & Spa (near Kundapura, ~3–5 km from station) — Slightly higher but value-for-money with spa/garden; often listed as accessible.
- Glucklich Beach Cottages (near Kundapura beaches) — Homestay-style, budget (~₹2000+), scenic.
- NTS Sagar Yatri Nivasa — Lodge-style, very economical for pilgrims.
- **For more options:** Search in Kundapura on platforms like MakeMyTrip/Booking.com (many start ₹1000–3000/night). TTD/GSB community may have basic stays; contact temple trust for recommendations.

Any Other Info

Accessibility: Well-connected by NH 66; autos/buses from Kundapura frequent. Railway station (Kundapura) ~3–8 km; Mangalore Airport ~80–90 km.

Local Cuisine: Try Kundapura-style chicken ghee roast, neer dosa, or seafood (coastal influence); temples may offer simple vegetarian prasadam/annaprasadam.

Best for: GSB families for Kuladevata darshan, history buffs (ancient port), and those seeking peaceful riverside devotion away from crowds.

Note: Photography inside may be restricted; respect temple rules (remove footwear, modest clothing).

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Ref: AI Overview

The Shri Mahalasa Narayani Temple in Basrur, located in the Kundapura taluk of Udupi district, Karnataka, is a historic 400+ year-old temple dedicated to the Kuladevi of many GSB families. Situated on the banks of the Varahi River, it honors Mahalasa Narayani, the Mohini form of Vishnu. The temple was renovated in 2012, showcasing traditional architecture.

Key Details of Sri Mahalasa Narayani Temple, Basrur:

- **Deity & Significance:** The presiding deity is Mahalasa Narayani, considered the female form of Vishnu (Mohini). It is a vital spiritual center for the GSB (Gowd Saraswat Brahmin) community who migrated from Goa.
- **Location:** Mandikeri, Basrur, Kundapur Taluk, Udupi District, Karnataka - 576211.
- **History:** The temple's roots are linked to the Moolasthana at Mardol, Goa. The shrine in Basrur is over 400 years old.
- **Architecture:** The temple features a blend of traditional coastal Karnataka and Goan styles, with intricate woodwork.
- **Key Festivals & Worship:** Daily, special Alankara poojas are performed. The temple is known for its serene atmosphere and is well-maintained.
- **Visitor Information:** The temple is typically open until 7:00 PM.

This temple is one of the important religious sites in the historical port town of Basrur, which houses over 40 temples.

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Ref: mahalasabasrur.org

Temple description

Basrur is located at a distance of 8 Kilo meters from Kundapura - Shimoga By pass, the place is known as Basrur MuruKai. The Kundapur Railway station is only 3 Kilo meters away from Basrur. In Basrur,Shree Mahalasa Narayani temple is located at Mandikeri, near Shree Mahalingeshwara temple. The temple is the replica of Shree Mahalasa Narayani temple at Mardol, Goa.

The "Swagatha Gopura" welcomes you and the Lord Ganesha is at the top of the Gopura. When you step into the outer premises of the temple, you come across "Deepa Sthambha" and "Tulasi ", the place where the earlier "Garbha Gruha" was located. After this there is a "Swagatha Mantapa".

On passing this "Swagatha Mantapa" , there are 14 "Gavakshas" (windows) and ceiling is decorated with stone carved designs . "Dashavathara" idols at the top of the "Chowki" gives it an immense look. "Jaya- Vijaya" statues are sculptured on both the sides of the "Garbha Gruha". "Rajatha Dwara" adores the "Garbha Gruha". " Shayana Gruha" is at the right side of the "Garbha Gruha".

Inside the "Garbha Gruha"our mother "Malshi" resides. The "Rajatha Peeta" is of four steps. "Pradhana Devi" (Shree Mahalasa Narayani) idol is made up of "Panchaloha" and is on the first step of the "Rajatha Peeta". Lord Vittala and Lord Venkataramana idols are on the second step. Rajatha(silver) "Utsava" idol of Shree Mahalasa Narayani is placed on the third step of the "Rajatha Peeta". The "Saligram aSampusta" is arranged on the last step of "Rajatha Peeta". After "Pradakshina" and "Prasadam " ,as you come out of the temple you can see the "Asta Lakshmis" surrounded on the top of the "Gopura". The gold coated "Shikhara Kalasha" is placed at the top of the "Gopura".

"Naivedya Gruha" and "Naivedya" are well situated at the right and left side of the temple respectively. "Agrashala" and "Yajna Mantapa" are at the left side of the temple. Office complex comprises guest rooms and guest hall which besides the office room.

The total area of temple stands on an area of about 2.65 acres of land and the river side place also belongs to the temple.

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CONTACT

Postal Address : Shree Mahalasa Narayani Temple,

Mandikeri,Post : Basrur,

Dist.Udupi - 576221.

Contact us : 08254- 237700.

mail us at : malshibasrur@gmail.com

Visit us at : www.mahalasabasrur.org

Any one wishing to donate to this temple may kindly see that cheque/DD is drawn in favour of Shree Mahalasa Narayani Temple, Basrur, S.B. A/c 1635 of Syndicate Bank, Basrur.

Devotees remitting the money through money order are requested to write full address and seva details on the money order form so as to enable the temple officials to send the holy prasadam.

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Ref: Google Gemini

Info on Sri Mahalasa Narayani temple at Basrur...Udupi dist..Karnataka under following headings:

Location..addrees.Speciality of this temple...architecture..main deity and subdeities...daily rituals and sevas...special sevas...festivals..facilities for devotees..accommodation etc...donation info..nearby temples...nearby tourist attractions...nearby budget hotels..any other info..

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The Shree Mahalasa Narayani Temple in Basrur is a centuries-old spiritual hub for the Goud Saraswat Brahmin (GSB) community, located on the scenic banks of the River Varahi.

Location and Address

The temple is situated in the historical trade town of Basrur, which was once a bustling port during the Portuguese era (known then as 'Barcelor').

* **Address**: Mandikeri, Kundapur Taluk, Basroor, Udupi District, Karnataka - 576211.

* **Access**: It is approximately 2 km from the Kundapura Railway Station and is well-connected by private buses and autorickshaws from Kundapura town.

Speciality and Architecture

Basrur is known for housing over 40 spiritual sites, with this temple at its spiritual core.

* **Significance**: The spirit (prana) of the deity is believed to be derived from the Moolasthana (original home) in Mardol, Goa.

* **Architecture**: The temple features intricate wood carvings and traditional coastal Karnataka design. It is frequently visited by the Swamijis of major GSB Maths, including Kashi Math and Gokarna Parthagali Math.

Main Deity and Subdeities

* **Main Deity:** Goddess Mahalasa Narayani, identified as the female avatar of Lord Vishnu (Mohini). She is depicted with four hands holding a Trishula, a sword, a severed head, and a drinking bowl.

* **Subdeities**: The complex typically includes parivara deities such as Grampurush, Shantadurga, and Lakshmi Narayan, following the traditions of the GSB community.

Daily Rituals and Sevas

Rituals are performed daily, often following a schedule that includes morning and evening Aaratis.

* **Common Sevas**: Devotees can offer Panchamrithabhisheka, Sahasranamarchane, and Kumkumarchane.

* **Special Sevas**: Significant offerings include the Chandika Havana (often performed during Ashvija month), Ranga Pooja, and Sahasra Tulasi Archana. Alankaar Poojas, where the deity is dressed as various forms like Rama or Krishna, are also popular.

Festivals and Devotee Facilities

* **Festivals**: The temple celebrates major GSB festivals with grandeur, particularly Navaratri and the annual Mahalasa Narayani fair, which usually occurs in August or September.

* **Facilities**: The temple premise includes a spacious parking area and a hall (Mandap) available for special family events and rituals.

Accommodation and Donations

* **Accommodation**: While the temple provides basic facilities, most pilgrims stay in nearby Kundapura. For more extensive options, the temple administration can be contacted for math-managed rooms.

* **Donations**: Contributions for Annadana (feeding programs) and temple maintenance can be made at the administrative office or through official bank accounts listed on their website.

Nearby Temples and Attractions

- * Mahathobhara Mahalingeshwara Temple: A historical 12th-century Shiva temple in Basrur, famous for its annual chariot festival in April.
- * Hattiangadi Sri Siddhivinayaka Temple: Located about 2 km away, this is a highly revered Ganesha temple on the banks of the Varahi.

- * Anegudde Sri Vinayaka Temple: One of the seven "Mukti Sthalas" of coastal Karnataka, located in Kumbhashi.
- * Shri Kundheshwara Swami Devasthana: A beautiful Shiva temple in nearby Kundapura known for its peaceful atmosphere.

Nearby Budget Hotels

* UVA MANISH: A popular choice in Kundapura offering comfortable rooms and tiffin services.

* Hotel Sriram Residency: Located in nearby Udupi/Kundapura area, providing standard amenities for families.

* **Local Lodges**: Several budget options like Shri Sai Palace and various homestays are available within a 5-10 km radius of Basrur.

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Photos

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Videos

Mahalasa Narayani Temple, Basrur (23 min):

https://youtu.be/X_Bm-RaS7RA?si=r6rQc96va8xnAS7O

Mahalasa Narayani Temple:

Source: Facebook https://share.google/WPDlNVrevuSFOcBa9

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

January 25, 2026

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